

JOINT STATEHOOD.

Arizona and New Mexico Would
Make an Empire State.

REASONS WHY THEY SHOULD BE UNITED

Editors Citizen:

There is a great deal being ventilated during these hot days about statehood of New Mexico and Arizona, separately and jointly, and it is the general consensus of opinion that joint statehood would be preferable to both territories, and as a last resort, rather than be still left on the ragged edge of the union to be buffeted and kicked around like a poor boy at a frolic, it would be better to join forces in solid panache and march to victory. This movement may not be popular with small fry politicians and those ambitious aspirants for office whose private and public records will not bear ventilating before an honest public, but it will be approved and advocated by all honest, unprejudiced political aspirants, and all other good citizens who have the interest of the territory at heart. Laying aside all prejudice, and looking the facts square in the face, it would be a grand triumph for both territories. Instead of two helpless, feeble dependencies subject to all kinds of selfish jobberies, we would have one grand state, an empire rivaling the great state of Texas itself, with our own chosen representatives and senators, whose tenure of office would depend upon the faithful performance of the duties which they were elected to fill; able congressmen who would have the right and whose duty it would be to stand upon the floor of congress and claim and demand a hearing in all matters pertaining to the great state of Montezuma, Arizona or New Mexico, as the case may be. Why, in less than two years this state would be hailed all over the union as the great state of Montezuma or empire of the west, just as Texas is now talked of as the empire state of the south, or the great state of Texas. Then, you say, we can divide it if we so stipulate, at some future time, but allow me to say that you will never want to divide it. They could not today get a corporal's guard in Texas who would agree to reduce its territory by one foot, and it would be the same way in this state. The people would be proud of their state, and the west would be proud of it, and the whole nation would be proud of it. The joint combination would bound into such prominence, and give such an immense impetus to trade, progress and prosperity, as to place her in the front ranks of great states, and with her boundless resources of wealth, push and energy, she would easily maintain a most enviable position, among the other great states of the union. Give us one great state or two small ones, either is far better than a helpless, dependent territory, a subservient, sycophant beggar for small favors from the general government, when we are by all rules of justice and right, entitled to as much consideration as any state in the union, and this we should be in a position to demand. Our delegates from Arizona and New Mexico are as able men as the average congressman, and are both intelligent advocates of statehood.

One is a republican, the other a democrat; these gentlemen are willing to take their chances before the electors of their respective territories; they understand the difference between a great self governed, independent state, and a cringing, crawling, dependent territory. When our representatives do screw up their courage to ask the self constituted nabobs of the capital for any consideration for the benefit of their constituents, they are usually met with the interrogation "Who in the— are you?" "Honored sir, I am the delegate from New Mexico." "Oh, yes; I see, I see; you are the same tramp that has been knocking at my door for the last half century! Have we not often told you to get out; that we do not want you?" "Oh, yes, noble sir, but our people still think that they have some rights which the government, great as it is, should respect. We enlisted in the war for the union, and gave our full quota of blood to save the nation. We responded to your call in the late Spanish war, and if any of your great states have furnished any better, braver, more intelligent fighters for the honor and glory of the flag, please, kind sir, point out the time and place."

But the autocrat, not being able to answer, gives the delegate a cold potato and tells him to go—to go way back and sit down. "Some day, in the far distant future, when you have spent \$300,000,000 in storage reservoirs, and have your fertile plains under irrigation, and in a high state of cultivation, then, perhaps, we may let you in, but don't bother us any more; I refer you to the Deming Headlight. See that paper's able article in the issue of the June 27, in opposition to



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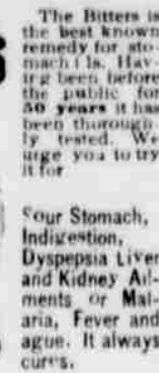
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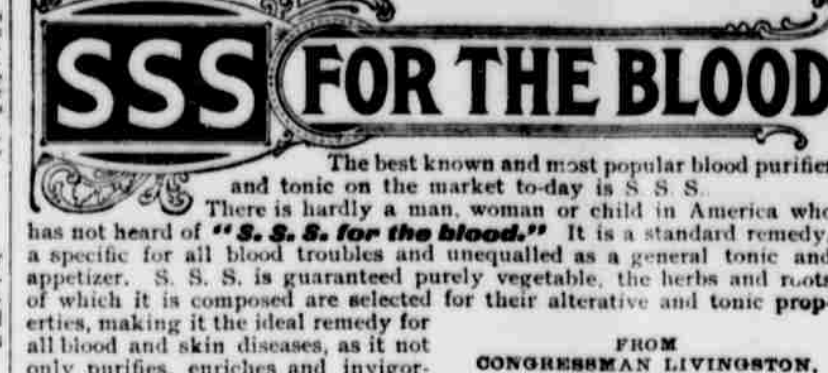
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